Happy Birthday

Accepted her
as a girl-friend?
I thought she was such
a stupid girl.
How cute!
Ck-
Ck-
Yeah yeah
She con-fessed with chocolate recently!
Inoue-kun
Is infamous for not accepting any
Really...?
But he accepted it, didn't he?
That was all
All I did was give him some
Then, can you say
he accepted me as his girl-friend?

www.hanashi.org
hanashi@irchighway.net
Scans: Druid
Translation: Old-Timer
Editing: Girsej
Qc: Yuura & Moa

We've been in the same class since we came to this school.
It's our first homeroom period
so let's all introduce ourselves, in order
Boo!
Boo!
SFX GATA - CLATTER
I'm Komatsu, From West Jr High
Ugh...
Is this grade school?
Boo!
Boo!
My hobbies are computers and games.
Please tell us things like your academic aspirations
I can guarantee you a spot as a regular!
I'm holding a recruiting drive!
Aspiration
There's no handball team here
so I'd like to form one
SFX GATA - CLATTER
I'm Saitou, From Central Jr High

Speaking of aspirations...
Being short bothers me
So I'm going to be sure to drink milk every day.
She was even shorter then than she is now.
I don't think you can call that an aspiration.
*IN TERMS OF HEIGHT
SFX. WASA - RUSTLE
Hasn't Saitou gotten even bigger?
Has your boyfriend's fondling made them bigger?
No...!
SFX PITA - STOP

Since we entered school
it's been like this.
Saitou-san,
maybe you'll grow taller if you play sports
How about joining the handball team?
I—
Wow, so soft.
Cut that out!
What a waste since you're so stacked
No way!
Ah- no, no
This girl is still a virgin
SFX KUSUKUSU - WHISPER
KYAAAAA!
Let's see
"Stacked"?

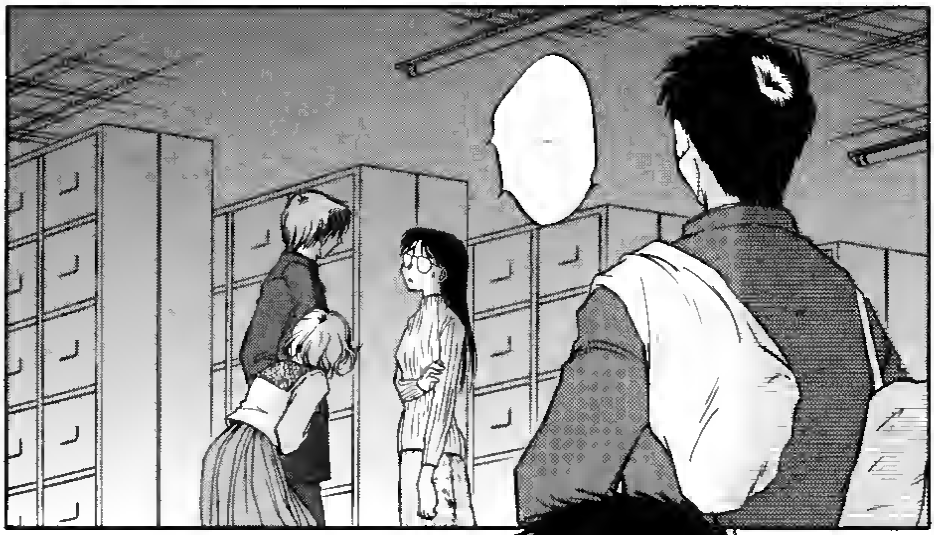
SFX: KUSHI, KUSHI - RUFFLE
T/L NOTE: THE SCHOOL YEAR IN JAPAN BEGINS IN EARLY APRIL AND STUDENTS START SCHOOL AT A FIXED AGE, SO THE YOUNGEST STUDENTS IN A CLASS ARE THOSE BORN IN MARCH
This girl was born March 31st!!
She exists to be everyone's mascot
Because I was born in March
I'm in the handicrafts club
I was short until Junior High
TENTH GRADE: NOW 178 CM
One small mistake, and she would have been a grade below.
Yeah, March 12th.
Eh?
You were also born in March, Komatsu-kun?
I didn't think
I wanted her to become
an adult in any time soon.
must run ten laps around the schoolyard.
Those who are late

What kinda guy is Inoue-kun?
Hmm, somewhat...
He's a "Johnnies" type, or such
Anyway, I don't like him!
Hey...
SFX ZA ZA ZA - RUNNING THROUGH GRASS
A SKEWED IMAGE
"Johnnies" type?
Actually, my fear is jealousy.
SFX ZA - SHUDDER
SFX HA - SPIN
SFX GARA - SOUND OF DOOR OPENING

SFX GATA - RATTLE
is the changing room for the handball team.
The founder, anyway.
Ah!
This...
S-
Sorry!
Somme's type?
Maybe?
?
Chuckle
SFX MUKA - ANGER
Not the handball TEAM,
more like the handball club
Inoue-kun!
SFX KU KU - CHUCKLE

He really is a jerk!
Being on an athletic team or not
makes a big difference in high school
A flushed forehead
And that faint scent...
Is it shampoo?
On the other hand, I...
Monotonously smell of dirt and sweat.
A life removed from such cheerful talk.
Inoue-kun!
Please, stop!

Or more like a fight scene?
It's got nothing to do with me!
Aw crap, a love scene!?
Come along!!
Yes, it does!
SFX KE - GAG
Either way,
Sensei!
don't do it at school
so I
no longer
care about what you do!
Because I'm going out with this girl now
What? Sensei?



...Um...
Some-how
this looke like..
This...
Here.
is my shoe locker

Outside the net.
Are Inoue-kun and Mitsumori-sensei really doing something suspicious?
Wait, what do you mean?
Um, it's a rumor Just a rumor
I didn't spread this.
Wow...
But Inoue-kun is Saitou's
SFX GARA - DOOR OPENING

Morning
Saitou~
There's a strange rumor
We don't believe it, but~
Yeah
That rumor
is cruel to both Sensei and Inoue-kun
What a stupid girl...
That rumor
came to an end right there

Mitsumori-sensei, who's been with us until now
School Assembly
will be retiring
Umm, at this time
The last semester
The last year of high school
that they just didn't have time for it.
Everyone was so busy with their own work
to get married
Why are you saying that!?
What about you!!
Why are you saying that!
Uh-oh...

Why do I always get stuck in these scenes?
You've got to go!
Even if you can't do anything to stop it
you've got to hear it straight from Sensei!
Shuddup!!
Because you still feel for her...
SFX DAN - BANG
It's got nothing to do with you anymore!
Would you stop blathering!!
I don't know if that's a good argument or not.
Fine, then!
Say, isn't this like eavesdropping...

ask what her real feelings are!?
I will go by myself and
SFX: GARA - DOOR OPENING
SFX: KON KON - KNOCK KNOCK
You're in the handicrafts club, right?
Um...
Ah...
I'm sorry
Wasn't your club advisor calling?
No, it's not that
I'm not coming to change

SFX: GARA GARA - DOOR CLOSING
SFX: PISHAN - SWISH
SFX: TE TE TE TE - STEPPING FASTER
SFX: TE TE - STEPPING
Sorry, that was a lie.
Um...?
It was a ruse
Sorry for butting in
You
looked like you were at a loss

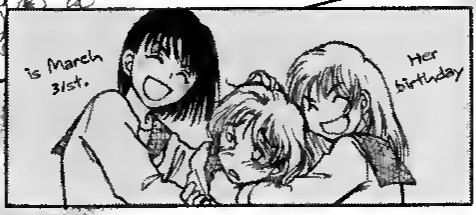
And
It's the first time you've called me by name.
Not at all....
That's not true.
Heh
Komatsu-kun
you're so grown up
You must think I'm pretty stupid.
SFX: GONYO - MUMBLE
ゴニョ
Mm....
sometimes makes me mad
Talking with him
and confused
No one has seen this side of her.

No one..
perhaps not even him
I hear Sensei is going to Tokyo
has noticed it.
And?
You're okay with that?
So he's going to follow and chase after her there.
So he says...
Isn't he nominally your boyfriend?
Can you allow things like that?
because I like him
I'll do anything for his sake
Whaaaat!?
I can

That's not right!!
No, that's not it.
I want to know
Ow...
Quit it!
I want to be part of everything he does.
If not,
I won't be satisfied.
Yep, she's stupid...

Do girls get like that?
Graduation
Or
when anyone's in love
do they get like that?
Are you really going?
When are you going?
She's supposedly flying
but we're taking the train!
We don't have the money to fly, and we might cancel...
When!?
Yeah
No
I don't know
It's up to him

March 31st!



On such a day

she'd help the guy she likes chase after another woman.

Could I ever be such an idiot?

Hikari 156 for Tokyo is now arriving

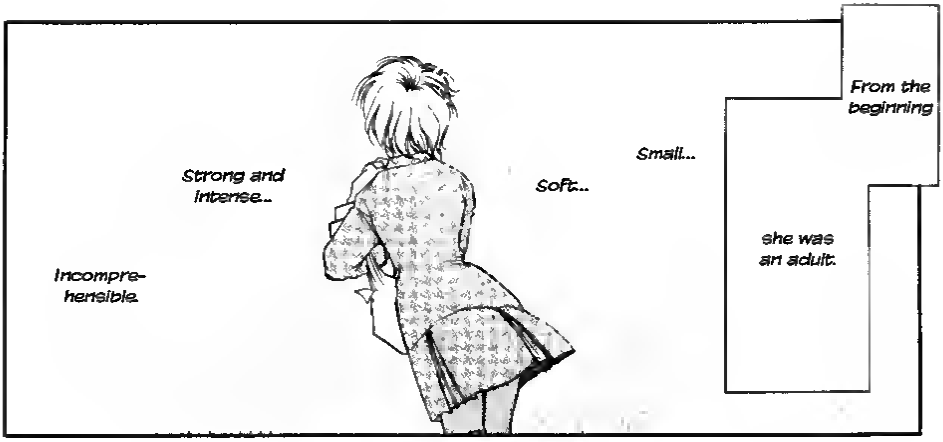
There will be a brief wait as we clean inside the train

Komatsu-kun??
Ah...
Enough for two...
What a coincidence

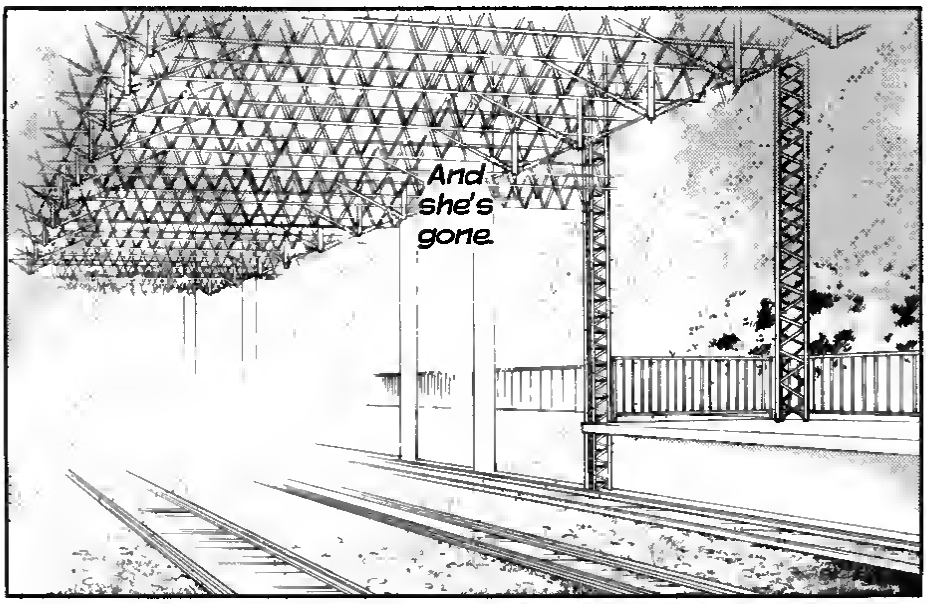
Today's my birthday.
I
Saitou-san
I bought too many
Ah, would you like one? They're chilled oranges
I thought she was going
Even I didn't know why I said that.
List of Expected Reactions
What are you talking about?
We're the same
Eh, it's mine too!
Yours is March 12th, isn't it?
Liar~
Perhaps this?
Cheerful
Couldn't be

にこっ
SFX. NIKO - SMILE
SFX. PITA - STOP
SFX. TA - TAP
Ah...
Yeah.
Bye,
I've got to go
Komatsu-kun

Happy
Birthday!
たたっ
SFX: TA TA ... TAP TAP


From the beginning
she was an adult.
Small...
Soft...
Strong and intense...
Incompre-hensible.

Blessings and love.
All the things that she deserves are taken by someone else.
yet she still smiles like that.
Damn,
she really is my type.


And she's gone.

●The End●

Baby Leaf

END

作品について ――― ではぜんぜんナイですが

中高生時代に、ウツクシク楽しい思い出があるひとは幸いである。
いや、私にまったくそれがなかったとは言わない。　おそらくたぶん、
他の99%の人と同じ、凡庸だった。
ただそのころ、私は仕ともだちというものに痛めつけられ、集団というものに失望した。
くわしく書こうとして、やめた。　あまりにもありがちすぎて、未だにそれをひきずる私が、いかにも了見の狭いやつに思えたからだ。
　んー。　いや。　了見は狭いです。ですともさ。
以来、私には友達と呼べるひとがいない。
もっと正確に言うならば、友達ってのは「友達になっていただいてる人」であり、いつ離れていくかもわからない人、である。
私は友達を継続させるべく、努力することができない。　しない。

ひとを楽しませたい、喜ばせたいとは心から思う。
仲よい相手であるほど、そのひとが不快なおもいをすると私も悲しい。
なのに、必死になればなるほど、なぜか正面にいる相手の言葉を聞きもらし反応を見逃す。
　まぁたぶん、こんなのはイマドキ自分だけではあるまい、と
せまい周囲を見渡しては　ちょっと安心する。
程度の差はあれ、みんな似たようなもんだ。

そんなふうな、たくさんのひとと（99%かもしれない）同様に、
わたしは、恋人どうしという間柄でしか、深くひとと　つきあったことがないように思う。　あれを深いと言っていいならば、だけど。
あとは、親とか妹とか。

　私のマンガに、登場人物が少ないのは（と言われる）、そーゆう理由からかもしれない。
好きあっている、肌をあわせている、という安心感がないと、
ほんとうには　そのひとと真剣に向きあう勇気がない。
そしてたぶん、これから先も　そうなんじゃないかなーという予感がする。
　もう、イイオトナなのにね。

困ったもんだ。

あとがき

楽しめない人間は憐れである。
とかいう言葉を言ったのは誰だっけ？

世の中には楽しいことがいっぱいあって、知らないという理由だけではない、金銭的、環境的、人格的な貧しさで、それを味わえないでいる99くの人間たち。
そのなかにはもちろん、私も入っている。
おまけに私は、元来の考えこみすぎもたたって、楽しく笑った思い出も、いちいちそこに恥と後悔をほじくり出しては、唸る。
楽しむ素質のない人間ってのは、けっこういるもんだ。
不幸が好きなわけじゃないのよ。

けれどもしも、毎日が喜びと発見の連続で、人生楽しくてしょーがないというその人が（いるんだろうか本当に）
例えば、おさんぽ途中の街並み、空気、星の光や街の灯りなどに幸福になることを忘れてるんだとしたら、それはそれで憐れだという気もする。

世の中楽しくてしょーがないひとが、私とおなじササヤカな幸せにも共感できるんだとしたら。
いっしょに微笑みあえる。話ができる。
何の隔たりもない。

私にはほとんどトモダチもいないけども。
そのトモダチも、そうでない人も、知らない人も、みんなどっちかといえばシアワセなほうが、そりゃいいなーと思ってる。
小市民ナリ。

んでもって、この本をよんでくれたスキキ♥なひとたちにはやはしうんとシアワセでいてほしいなぁと…（自己陶酔）

2003ねん．4がつ．
二宮ひかるより．
＋愛♡をこめて!!

●コミック316●

【YKコミックス】

ベイビーリーフ

平成19年8月15日　第4刷発行
平成15年7月1日　初版発行

著者　二宮(にのみや)ひかる
©HIKARU NINOMIYA 2003
発行者　戸田利吉郎
印刷所　大日本印刷株式会社
製本所　星野製本株式会社

ヤングキングアワーズ
平成14年8月号～15年1，5月号掲載作品
連載担当／筆谷芳行

発行所　株式会社 少年画報社

〒101 8388 東京都千代田区三崎町3―3―12
電話 東京03(3262)3501 振替 00150-2-20260

造本には十分注意しておりますが、落丁・乱丁(本のページの抜け落ちや順序の間違い)の場合は、購入された書店名を記入の上、「販売部」宛にお送りください。送料小社負担にてお取り替えいたします。但し、古書店で購入したものはお取り替えできません。

Printed in Japan

ISBN4-7859-2316-4

Baby Leaf

Happy Birthday

www.hanashi.org
#hanashi@irchighway.net

Scans: Druid
Translation: Old-timer
Editing: Girsej
QC: Yuura & Moa